

Clean Set of Amended Claims

~~Sub E1~~  
~~C1~~ 22. (Amended) A neural prosthetic apparatus, comprising:  
a signal generator that generates a second signal;  
a signal processor that combines a first signal that represents sound and the  
second signal to output a combined signal; and  
stimulation unit coupled to the signal processor that receives the combined signal  
from the signal processor for application to the auditory nerve, wherein the second signal  
includes at least fluctuations in amplitude greater than a prescribed amount at a frequency above  
approximately 2 kHz.

~~Sub E1~~  
~~C2~~ 24. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the second signal  
generates statistically independent activity in a plurality of nerve fibers in the auditory nerve.

~~Sub E1~~  
~~C3~~ 26. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the second signal  
includes one of (i) a pulse train generating substantially continuous pseudospontaneous activity  
being statistically independent activity in a plurality of nerve fibers of the nerve, and (ii) a broad  
band noise that causes statistically independent activity in the plurality of nerve fibers of the  
nerve.